

## PROCLAMATION ASSISTED LIVING WEEK

September 7-13, 2003

**WHEREAS**, the population of seniors 65 and older is increasing dramatically and will make up 20% of America's total population by the year 2030, with the number of individuals 85 and older expected to more than double to 8.5 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the concept of assisted living has quickly evolved to offer a brighter future with greater independence and more choices for Americans who are living longer, healthier lives; and

**WHEREAS,** assisted living residences are an exciting long-term care alternative for many seniors who may need some personal assistance, but want to remain as independent as possible; and

WHEREAS, assisted living providers are dedicated to providing quality care and committed to educating the public about the many affordable health care and housing options available for seniors in communities; and

WHEREAS, all citizens are encouraged to visit the residents of these communities to learn more about assisted living and how seniors of North Dakota can age in a nurturing, homelike environment with dignity, independence and quality of life; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 7-13, 2003, **ASSISTED LIVING WEEK** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

ATTEST:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State